

THE
METROPOLITAN.

JULY, 1844.

LITERATURE.

NOTICES OF NEW WORKS.

Coningsby ; or the New Generation. By B. DISRAELI, Esq., M.P.
author of "Contarini Fleming."

PERHAPS a work of more opposite ingredients, the result of the most opposite talents in the person of its author, never appeared before the world. Fearlessness of spirit, and a reckless defiance of all consequences, break upon us at the outset, and have acted as an energy and impulse throughout, giving wide breathing room and free play to all the diversified talents of which Mr. Disraeli is the undoubted possessor. We had heretofore believed that men living in the world must necessarily be shackled by those bonds of society which at the same time hold it together, but our author, like Samson, though for a while he might rest in the lap of this Delilah, has proved that he could readily burst the green withs of his nominal captivity. The work is undoubtedly severe, and we are not severe in saying so, inasmuch as its author meant that it should be so. We have ever been the first to enter our protest against the personalities of private life. Our sense of justice here impels us to mark the difference. It is public men that our author has brought before us, and public men are public property. And these too as the representatives of public measures. As for the application of likenesses between some of his fault-spotted characters and living individuals, be it remembered that no man ever had or can have a monopoly for any particular sin, and that no portraiture can possibly be drawn which must not inevitably have a thousand counterparts. How idle then to trace resemblances ! And these observations ought the more to be kept in view, because Mr. Disraeli has not

July 1844.—VOL. XL.—NO. CLIX.

K

lauded one party with the highest praise, and loaded another with the deepest obloquy. So far from doing this, he has dealt out the measure of his severity with an even-handed justice, condemning one side quite as fairly as another.

The work has undoubtedly a strong political tendency. The observing politician stands on his eminence throughout. He would mark the Spirit of Young England bursting the shackles of its long minority, and assuming its independence. It seems to us as if he would fain overleap the times when parties hold their alternate dominancy, to days when all may be acting for, and influenced by, the public good; when petty private interests shall be merged in an enlarged patriotism. There is a high-minded rectitude of philanthropy in his reference to the interests of our poorer classes: in his recognition of their unalienable rights. True patriotism no more than true philanthropy, can neither over nor undervalue the peasant because he is a peasant, or the peer because he is a peer. It is as man alone that man ought to be estimated, without reference to his condition.

Another leading feature of the work is, a just assertion of Jewish influence. No man with his Bible in his hand would wish to undervalue the peculiar People. If he honour ancient lineage, theirs is the most honourable. The Old Testament contains the histories of their Warriors, Prophets, Priests, and Kings, and how penned? even by the authorship of inspiration. But as a Christian, he must accord a still higher reverence to the lineage of David, since from that line came the Messiah. Imagination as well as reality must needs be mocked and foiled at the vain thought of seeking loftier descent; and though as a people the Jews are suffering degradation, yet as a future restoration to glory and might and honour and power await them, so are the elements of greatness not only unextinguished but energetic within them. Power is but the assertion of strength; and our author justly notes, that no great national action, no important political movement, can or does take place without a concurrence of the Jewish influence. In this work we might almost say that Mr. Disraeli has presented a type of the Hebrew nation in one character—that of Sidonia, a man whose gifted mind, whose enlarged capacity, whose extensive education, whose vast resources, whose intellect, wealth, and position, well befit him for the representation of his People.

"Coningsby," however, has many aspects. We change our position, and find numerous fresh views worthy of the highest admiration. Two of these diametrically opposite balance each other in excellence and spirit. Many, most, of the scenes, are cast amid the higher classes of life, and Mr. Disraeli is almost alone in their portraiture. This merit is, indeed, linked with another, the fine, the powerful, the talented impersonation of character; and it is in a large measure that just expression of the taste, the feelings, and the habits of the individuals which in their combination raise around us the very reality of the higher orbits of society. It is the highest refinement which consists in the most nameless things. If it were capable of expression, more tangible, more matter of disquisition, it would in the same proportion be less exquisite, of a less subile essence. Pervading all things, it is yet all touch evading. No wonder that every day deli-

neations of high-life are so much more like low-life, where their actuating spirit is one felt but by few, fewer still being capable of its expression. Mr. Disraeli's scenes cast among the aristocracy are of the highest polish, without the slightest deterioration of the lines of character. And yet is his opposite talent quite as strongly marked. Perhaps we are wrong in calling that a talent which is more truly a feeling. We speak of the refreshing energy which he displays when he passes into scenes where nature reigns. Then it is that the unbent mind luxuriates, the heart expands into universal benevolence, the spirits rejoice and gladden, and we who read seem to behold a spirit liberated for a while from all the chains of mortal perplexities, released from the weight of human anxieties, and disporting for a while in that glowing sunshine which gilds all things with its own gladdening joy.

It is time, however, that we close our notice, though we do it with regret, so many aspects of admiration crowding still upon us: these our readers must contemplate for themselves. Whether the work be looked upon as a political effort, or as an enchanting novel, full of vigour and interest, and crowded with finely-formed characters, with great interest of plot, and rich in true sentiment and real feeling, matters but little. From its authorship, its scope, and its tendency, it must command universal attention. It will have numerous enemies, but many more friends. Mr. Disraeli already enjoys a high literary reputation, which will be still more enhanced and advanced by "*Coningsby*."

We have selected an extract, not from the fashionable, the playful, or the tender, but from the political.

"Now tell me, *Coningsby*, exactly what you conceive to be the state of parties in this country; for it seems to me that if we penetrate the surface, the classification must be more simple than their many names would intimate."

"The principle of the Exclusive Constitution of England having been conceded by the acts of 1827—8—32," said *Coningsby*, "a party has arisen in the State, who demand that the principle of political liberalism shall consequently be carried to its extent; which it appears to them is impossible without getting rid of the fragments of the old Constitution that remain. This is the Destructive party; a party with distinct and intelligible principles. They seek a specific for the evils of our social system in the general suffrage of the population."

"They are resisted by another party, who having given up Exclusion, would only embrace as much Liberalism as is necessary for the moment; who, without any embarrassing promulgation of principles, wish to keep things as they find them as long as they can; and then will manage them as they find them as well as they can; but as a party must have the semblance of principles, they take the names of the things they have destroyed. Thus, they are devoted to the prerogatives of the Crown, although in truth the Crown has been stripped of every one of its prerogatives; they affect great veneration for the Constitution in Church and State, though every one knows that the Constitution in Church and State no longer exists; they are ready to stand or fall with the "independence of the Upper House of Parliament," though, in practice, they are perfectly aware that, with their sanction, the "Upper House" has abdicated its initiatory functions, and now serves only as a Court of Review of the legislation of the House of Commons. Whenever public opinion, which this party never

attempts to form, to educate, or to lead, falls into some violent perplexity, passion, or caprice, this party yields without a struggle to the impulse, and, when the storm has past, attempts to obstruct and obviate the logical, and ultimately the inevitable, results of the very measures they have themselves originated, or to which they have consented. This is the Conservative Party.

“‘I care not whether men are called Whigs or Tories, Radicals or Chartists, or by what nickname a bustling and thoughtless race may designate themselves; but these two divisions comprehend at present the English nation.

“‘With regard to the first school, I for one have no faith in the remedial qualities of a government carried on by a neglected Democracy, who, for three centuries, have received no education. What prospect does it offer us of those high principles of conduct with which we have fed our imagination, and strengthened our will? I perceive none of the elements of government that should secure the happiness of a people and the greatness of a realm.

“‘But, in my opinion, if Democracy be combated only by Conservatism, Democracy must triumph, and at no distant date. This, then, is our position. The man who enters public life at this epoch has to choose between Political Infidelity and a Destructive Creed!’

“‘This, then,’ said Millbank, ‘is the dilemma to which we are brought by nearly two centuries of Parliamentary Monarchy and Parliamentary Church?’

“‘‘Tis true,’ said Coningsby. ‘We cannot conceal it from ourselves, that the first has made Government detested, and the second, Religion disbelieved.’

“‘Many men in this country,’ said Millbank, ‘and especially in the class to which I belong, are reconciled to the contemplation of Democracy, because they have accustomed themselves to believe that it is the only power by which we can sweep away those sectional privileges and interests that impede the intelligence and industry of the community.’

“‘And yet,’ said Coningsby, ‘the only way to terminate what in the language of the present day is called Class Legislation is not to intrust power to classes. You would find a locofoco majority as much addicted to Class Legislation as a factitious aristocracy. The only power that has no class sympathy is the Sovereign.’

“‘But suppose the case of an arbitrary Sovereign: what would be your check against him?’

“‘The same as against an arbitrary Parliament.’

“‘But Parliament is responsible.’

“‘To whom?’

“‘To their constituent body.’

“‘Suppose it was to vote itself perpetual?’

“‘But public opinion would prevent that.’

“‘And is public opinion of less consequence on an individual than on a body?’

“‘But public opinion may be indifferent: a nation may be misled, may be corrupt.’

“‘If the nation that elects the Parliament be corrupt, the elected body will resemble it. The nation that is corrupt, deserves to fall. But this shows that there is something to be considered beyond forms of government—national character. And herein mainly should we repose our hopes. If a nation be led to aim at the good and the great, depend upon it, whatever be its form, the government will respond to its convictions and its sentiments.’

“‘Do you, then, declare against Parliamentary Government?’

“‘Far from it: I look upon political change as the greatest of evils, for it comprehends all. But if we have no faith in the permanence of the

existing settlement, if the very individuals who established it year after year are proposing their modifications or their reconstructions, so also, while we uphold what exists, ought we to prepare ourselves for the change we deem impending.

“Now I would not that either ourselves or our fellow-citizens should be taken unawares, as in 1832, when the very men who opposed the Reform Bill offered contrary objections to it which destroyed each other, so ignorant were they of its real character, its historical causes, its political consequences. We should now so act, that when the occasion arrives, we should clearly comprehend what we want, and have formed an opinion as to the best means by which that want can be supplied.

“For this purpose, I would accustom the public mind to the contemplation of an existing though torpid power in the constitution, capable of removing our social grievances were we to transfer to it those prerogatives which the Parliament has gradually usurped, and used in a manner which has produced the present material and moral disorganization. The House of Commons is the house of a few; the Sovereign is the sovereign of all. The proper leader of the people is the individual who sits upon the throne.’

“Then you abjure the Representative principle?’

“Why so? Representation is not necessary, or even, in a principal sense, parliamentary. Parliament is not sitting at this moment, and yet the nation is represented in its highest as well as its most minute interests. Not a grievance escapes notice and redress. I see in the newspapers this morning that a pedagogue has brutally chastised his pupil. It is a fact known over all England. We must not forget that a principle of government is reserved for our days that we shall not find in our Aristotles, or even in the forests of Tacitus, nor in our Saxon Wittenagemotes, nor in our Plantagenet Parliaments. Opinion now is supreme, and opinion speaks in print. The representation of the Press is far more complete than the representation of Parliament. Parliamentary representation was the happy device of a ruder age, to which it was admirably adapted; an age of semi-civilization, when there was a leading class in the community; but it exhibits many symptoms of desuetude. It is controlled by a system of representation more vigorous and comprehensive, which absorbs its duties and fulfils them more efficiently; and in which discussion is pursued on fairer terms, and often with more depth and information.’

“And to what power would you intrust the function of taxation?’

“To some power that would employ it more discreetly than in creating our present amount of debt, and in establishing our present system of imposts.

“In a word, true wisdom lies in the policy that would effect its ends by the influence of opinion, and yet by the means of existing forms. Nevertheless, if we are forced to revolutions, let us propose to our consideration the idea of a free monarchy, established on fundamental laws, itself the apex of a vast pile of municipal and local government, ruling an educated people, represented by a free and intellectual press. Before such a royal authority, supported by such a national opinion, the sectional anomalies of our country would disappear. Under such a system, where qualification would not be parliamentary but personal, even statesmen would be educated; we should have no more diplomatists who could not speak French; no more bishops ignorant of theology; no more generals-in-chief who never saw a field.

“Now there is a polity adapted to our laws, our institutions, our feelings, our manners, our traditions; a polity capable of great ends, and appealing to high sentiments; a polity which, in my opinion, would render government an object of national affection; which would terminate sectional anomalies, assuage religious heats, and extinguish Chartism.’”

Our Actresses ; or Glances at Stage Favourites, Past and Present. By Mrs. C. BARON WILSON, Author of "Memoirs of M. G. Lewis," and the "Life of the Duchess of St. Albans."

The difficulties attending a work of this nature are neither trivial nor few. On the one hand, stands the danger of offending public delicacy by a recital of discreditable truths; on the other, the fear of ministering to its worst appetites by their narration. On these accounts the task was infinitely best left to a woman's pen. Her feminine feeling might suppress what was most offensive; her mercy palliate what was doubtful; so that there should be nothing chronicled but that which "modesty without a blush might hear," but which the lovers of scandal might receive without rejoicing and zest.

Still this exemption from offensive matter could only be purchased at the price of some completeness of the biographies themselves. Doubtless in this respect the loss is a gain. Stage stars are best gazed at from a distance. Some high and honourable exceptions have redeemed the profession from the charges too often and too justly brought against it, but enough of evil remains to make it needful that in a work intended for the general public, a public we are proud to say that will not be brought to tolerate either coarseness or immorality, much should be suppressed. Mrs. C. B. Wilson has performed her task with a tact which leaves nothing for objection. It is natural that those whose names are continually before our eyes, and who are personally identified with the finest impersonations of genius, should excite a feeling of curiosity respecting their own histories and privacies. The most extraordinary vicissitudes of fortune have attended the lot of some of these theatrical heroines. From the stage to the peerage, from the cottage to the coronet, has been no very rare transition. Those who found themselves at the outset of life in the humblest of its positions, have at its close left it at its most elevated. Stranger than truth have been many of the incidents of their lot. Wilder than invention the changes of their state. That powerful feeling which has in our own as well as other countries operated against the higher, the more refined, and the more educated classes, presenting themselves upon the public stage, which has prevailed to their exclusion in no slight degree, though not without a few exceptions, has had a marked influence on the lot of those enrolled in the dramatic corps. It has preserved that line of separation which else would have been broken down and trampled upon. Generally speaking, *Our Actresses* are either the descendants of a theatrical parentage, or born of the humbler classes. In some a passion for admiration, in others a passion for the stage, has been the impelling motive. True it is that in some few native genius has asserted itself, and proved the right of the aspirant to her position; but in the multitude the inferior class of impulses have been made manifest by their remaining in the unimproving ranks of mediocrity. We know not that it is to be desired for the good of society, but it certainly would have been highly advantageous to the interests of the drama, if the educated and refined were permitted to tread the boards, not as a rarity but by the permission of custom, for then surely we might look for a finer perception and a higher appreciation of those exquisite conceptions of character, the portraiture of

which have immortalized some of our dramatic authors. Another of the beneficial influences of such an order of things would be the purification of the morals of the stage, which have long furnished matter of sorrowful regret even to the extent of alarming some of the most conscientious from the enjoyment of its fascinations. Undoubtedly the stage is capable of being made a high school of morals, and a not unworthy adjunct of the pulpit. Heartily should we rejoice at such a regeneration, and that its lessons should be conveyed by worthy functionaries. We would fain see those who adorn its representations by the purity of their private life, not the peculiar and high exceptions, but the one general and universal rule.

Returning, however, to Mrs. C. B. Wilson's work, we have a pleasure in saying that it is generally lively and interesting, and never scandalous. That with but few exceptions she has proved herself a kind biographer, and in those few a merciful one. Her memoirs are well seasoned with theatrical anecdote, and we can perceive that she has taken every pains to gather faithful information. The numerous portraits which enrich the volumes, whilst they give us the most perfect idea of the fair originals, tempt us also into offering our countrywomen a compliment on the improved style of their apparel. Fashion and good taste seem to us at the present time to be very good friends—when most of these portraits were taken they must have been sadly at variance. As a whole, the work will furnish a very agreeable variety to the literature of the day.

Our readers will be amused by the following theatrical anecdotes.

"Nearly a century after this period, David Garrick purchased a share of the property. He discovered that the company required considerable recruiting in the very lowest rank of actors; and in the choice of these he employed a whimsical fellow about the theatre—his name was Stone. He was a sort of theatrical crimp; he had much humour, but never could be prevailed upon to open his mouth on the stage.

"Whenever this caterer brought a person who was permitted to make an essay, whether successful or not, he had a certain sum given him for his trouble, and, for three or four years, this man (who had acquired the name of Garrick's Crimp Serjeant) made in this kind of service a tolerable subsistence.

"A variety of letters passed between Garrick and Stone during the course of their professional negotiations; some of which letters are extant and in the hands of the curious collectors of such literature. Amongst them are the following, which we have seen, written in 1748.

" Thursday Noon.

"SIR,—Mr. Lacy turned me out of the lobby, and behaved very ill to me. I only axed for my two guineas for the last Bishop, and he swore I shouldn't have a farthing. I can't live upon air. I have a few cupids you may have cheap, as they belong to a poor journeyman shoemaker, who I drink with now and then.

" I am, your humble servant,

" W. STONE.

"The following is the answer in Garrick's well-known hand.

" Friday Noon.

"STONE,—You are the best fellow in the world. Bring the cupids to the theatre to-morrow. If they are under six and not bandy-legged, you shall have a guinea a piece for them.

"Mr. Lacy will pay you himself for the bishop. He is very penitent for what he has done. If you can get me two good murderers, I will pay you handsomely, particularly the spouting fellow who keeps the apple-stall on Tower-hill; the cut across his face is quite the thing we want.

"Pick me up an alderman or two for Richard the Third if you can; and I have no objection to treat with you about a Lord Mayor in case Dunstall should be absent without leave. The barber will not do for the dumb Brutus, although I shall make use of him as crook-finger'd Jack.

"DAVID GARRICK.

"There is another of Mr. Crimp-Serjeant's Stone's letters to the following effect.

"SIR,—The Bishop of Winchester is getting drunk at the Bear, and swears he'll not disgrace his family by going on the stage with you to-night.

"I'm yours,

"W. STONE.

To which Garrick sent the following very laconic reply.

"STONE,—The bishop may go to the devil: I don't know a greater rascal—except yourself.

"D. GARRICK.

"The person alluded to as the bishop, was procured by Stone, and had rehearsed the part of the Bishop of Winchester, in the play of Henry the Eighth, to the satisfaction of the fastidious Mr. Garrick:—the fellow, however, never played the part,—for the reason assigned in the laconic epistles.

"While on the subject of stage bishops, we may as well remark that so recently as 1821, poor old Drury was not only honoured with a drunken bishop, but a drunken king.

"During the pageant at that theatre in honour of the coronation of George IV., and which had an uninterrupted run of one hundred nights, Mr. Elliston the lessee, personated the portly English monarch, and on those evenings on which he had not to perform in the previous comedy, he invariably indulged in his destructive propensity for the bottle, and was generally *Bacchi plenus*, when his dresser with difficulty, encased him in the royal robes for his nightly strut across a platform thrown over the pit.

"But the lessee had method in his drink, he threw himself under the protection of mother church; or, in other words, he relied upon the gentleman (Mr. Foote) who personated His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, and had, as in duty bound, to walk by the side of his sovereign; in a word, he relied upon the archbishop being sober, although the monarch might be leglessly drunk! But, alas!—Mr. Archbishop Foote had been reared in the same Anti-Matthewite school as his manager, and one fatal night, church and state were both in a condition not to support each other,—but to require support from the people,—which support was very good-humouredly afforded them, for when they attempted to cross the platform as usual, the bishop being as drunk as the king, instead of a stay, he proved a stumbling-block, and it was with some difficulty, but with much good-natured laughter at the pair, that they were safely handed to the stage, where they took advantage of various shoulders in attendance, and reached the coronation chair without a tumble. The acting-manager determined on mulcting the staggering archbishop of part of his salary, but for the honour of the church, the injured dignitary put in the following demurrer—'that legally—a bishop has as much right to be drunk as a king; and that the royal Elliston, even by his Judge Jeffries (Winston) could not conscientiously fine Archbishop Foote, for doing once, that

which his majesty was nightly doing.' The archbishop escaped with merely a reprimand from Judge Jeffries.

"Mr. Cooper (the now stage-manager at Drury Lane) had to personate Prince Leopold in the procession; but knowing the lessee's infirmity, it was arranged that 'Sober John,' as Mr. Cooper is justly denominated, should at a minute's notice assume the royal robes if necessary;—and 'Sober John's' nightly question to his dresser was—'Well—how is it? is the king sober enough to walk—or must I strut for him?'

"There is a moral to this true told tale. 'Sober John' is living in health and wealth—King Elliston became bankrupt in fortune, debilitated in constitution, and is now mouldering in the grave-yard south of Waterloo Bridge!"

Memoirs of a Babylonian Princess (Maria Theresa Asmar,) daughter of the Abdallah Asmar, written by herself, and translated into English.

This work has been ushered before the world in all the pomp and circumstance of glorious war. The public have actually been taken by storm. A Babylonian Princess, a Ninevite, born on the site of that ancient city to which Jonah was sent to proclaim overwhelming retribution—of a line and lineage that may put to shame our Herald's College—a Chaldaic Christian, cradled in the Holy Land, who has with her own hands swept the dust from the Holy Sepulchre—herself to write a book! We had thought that the craving appetite for something new could scarcely have been gratified, but here is a novelty first-rate, and of the finest water. We could almost have been unbeliever enough to question, but we open the first volume, and there looks out upon us from the Frontispiece a portrait of the fair reality herself to decide our doubts. True, such things have been as for artists to draw imaginative portraits; but then we turn to a second page, and find a dedication to the Queen Dowager. We can suppose no trifling with a name so illustrious and benign, and, rather than conceive it possible, we are willing to abjure any little tendency to heresy we might have been capable of entertaining. Possibly the Babylonian Princess Maria Theresa Asmar, in her European sojournings, may have lost something of the peculiar traits of clime and country, and have contracted, in exchange, while dwelling with ourselves, a little of our nationality. Or it may be that her translator, in his habit of English compilation, has suffered her Eastern diction and its metaphorical grandiloquence to escape his rendering. Certain it is that the style is more English than Eastern, more masculine than feminine. The supposition did indeed glance across our mind whether this Babylonian Princess might not, in the first instance, have had recourse to the service of a secretary; but the title-page again contradicts us—"written by herself," and of course subsequently "translated into English." After we had perused her volumes, we returned to our Frontispiece again, to con the features, mould, and form of this heroine lady, and, looking on the soft and fragile presence, we asked ourselves, How could this delicate creature, with her apparent unsubstantialness of person, perform so many Herculean exploits? How was it possible, on those slender shoulders, to

carry her own mother in a two hours' flight? How swim across wide rivers? How seize a wild wawüa, and, grasping his throat in those delicate fingers, brain him against a stone wall with repeated blows, he struggling and writhing the while? These and such like questions we put to ourselves, and could only make reply, that strength of mind is often a capable as well as noble substitute for strength of body.

Passing over the adventitious, and turning to the inherent interest of the work, we at once with pleasure confess, that a narrative more replete with valuable information respecting the localities of which it treats could scarcely be imagined. We must be pardoned if we confess that it is in the able delineation of customs and manners, more than in the personal adventures of the narrator, that we have found the value of the work. Constantly pausing in a life of extreme calamity, when natural sorrow was weighing down the heart, to describe some custom that must have been an every-day habit, some object that must have been an every-day sight, has occasionally the air of being curiously parenthetical. It marks a reference to her readers, rather than a remembrance of herself. There is also a remarkable exemption from everything which might be construed into the sentiment of love, accounted for, it may be, by the constantly-avowed enthusiasm of piety. The feelings of the Princess, turned in her very childhood into a religious channel, made her dedicate herself to a life of holiness, purity, and devotion. To be a preacher of Christianity, a founder of religious houses, has been this lady's great desire. For this she rejected the husband of her father's selection, and used her powers of persuasion to induce him to exchange herself as a wife for the cell of an anchorite, wherein, peradventure, he may now be watching the moments of his life as they ebb away. Her own vocation was the convent, and yet, after years of persevering intention, we find her suddenly surrendering the fixed purpose of her heart, on a slight solicitation to become something of a maid of honour in the establishment of the Prince of the Lebanon. Change, however, being the condition of our existence, we speak not of it as impugning our Babylonian Princess.

Abounding in information, as rich in observations of country as though travel had been undertaken for its express purpose, replete with novel interest, full of familiar knowledge of religions, laws, and people, varied in scene, belonging to a land which claims our never-to-be-alienated feelings, the Babylonian Princess deserves public attention and public approbation. From among the mass of vivid descriptions, we select a lady's official occupation of a post of preferment, in which the holder had well be a heroine, since the hazard appears to us quite on a par with the honour.

"I have said that the parties to whose espousals we were invited were persons of distinction. The lady had but a little while before received the distinguished honour of being appointed hafta of her tribe, in a war in which they had been engaged with a neighbouring horde. When a tribe is about to engage in war with another, they seek out the most beautiful virgin they can find amongst their people, or amongst friendly tribes, to be their hafta. She must excel all others in courage and eloquence, for

her post is in the front rank, and her duty is to excite her followers, by her glowing appeals, to feats of valour.

"The hafta is regarded by her surrounding warriors with a sort of religious reverence, as holding, in a manner, the issues of fate in her hand; and goes forth to battle seated on the largest and most beautifully white female camel that can be found. Her 'maharah' is covered with scarlet cloth, and decorated with all sorts of ornamental devices, with a deep fringe of gold. She is always seen in the thickest of the fight, and surrounded by the most renowned warriors of her tribe, whom she animates and encourages by her voice and gestures; calling on the old and tried ones to remember their former glorious deeds, and stimulating the young to prodigies of valour, by promising her hand to the fortunate youth who shall bring the head of the enemy's general.

"Half the force is set apart for the protection of the hafta, and all the ambitious spirits of the tribe are found at her side, for despair seizes the warriors, and the battle is inevitably lost, should she fall into the hands of the enemy. Before the conflict commences, each warrior presents himself in turn to the hafta, and asks her to inspire him with courage and enthusiasm, saying, 'O most beautiful among the beautiful! for thee I go to battle; my life is thine; let me behold the brightness of thy face, that the heart of thy slave may be filled with courage, so that his voice may be as the lions roar in the ears of the enemy, and his lance as the destroying angel.' To which the hafta replies, 'Go, brave youth! be thy heart as that of the lion, and thy lance as the wide-spread pestilence. I am the hafta, the reward of the bravest of the brave; and my price is the head of the enemy's chief.'"

Here we give a graphic description of one of the scourges of the desert, met with by the princess in her eventful travels:

"On the third day after our departure from Hid, as we were going, as usual, listlessly on, I saw upon a sudden a great commotion towards the front of our cavalcade. I was, of course, anxious to ascertain the reason of so unusual an occurrence, and inquired of a man, whom I saw hurrying past me, with alarm on his countenance, what had happened. 'The samiri! the samiri!' he cried, 'is approaching!' 'The samiri!' I said to myself, 'how can that be? Not a cloud is to be seen; the sky is clear and bright; not a breath of air is stirring. How can this be? by what means have they come at the knowledge that this scourge of the desert is about to pour its fury on our heads?'

"I was not suffered to remain long in doubt. The camels in the front rank had, I was told, refused to proceed, which was an infallible sign that the dreaded wind was not far off. Two hours before its approach they seem to scent its coming; for nothing can induce them to continue their onward course. Though upon all occasions they are the most docile and obedient of living creatures, they become, under these circumstances, more perverse and obstinate than the ass or the mule. They bury their heads in the sand, and remain crouched down, until the scourge has passed over them. This wonderful instinct bestowed on them by the great Creator of all things for their preservation, is also instrumental in saving the lives of innumerable travellers, who, ignorant of the approach of the wind, would be overwhelmed and suffocated by it, before they could make any efforts for their own preservation.

"No sooner was it known that the samiri was near at hand, than a halt was immediately called, and all became bustle and confusion. The tent-camels were quickly unloaded, and the tents pitched, with a rapidity increased by fear and dread. The horses were secured, their heads covered, and their ears filled with cotton. As for the camels, the faithful harbingers of danger, they were left to their own sagacity.

"The travellers had now betaken themselves to their tents, where they cast themselves on the ground, and covered their heads with the 'mashallah.' A profound stillness reigned throughout the vast multitude, as if every one expected to escape the fury of the blast, by keeping his very existence a secret."

"Casting my eyes to windward, I beheld a vast column, which seemed to reach from earth to heaven, gradually approaching our encampment. Round and round the huge lurid mass whirled, it slowly but steadily kept its onward progress, casting a deep shadow across the naked desert. Above my head all was serenity and peace; but as the column approached, the gusts which had just now produced the slight rustling in the curtains of the Mahomedan lady's tent, became more sudden and violent; now chilling the blood, and now scorching, like the blast of a furnace.

"I felt a sensation of terror creeping over me; my strength seemed to have abandoned my limbs; I felt as though I was suffocated, and gasped for breath. All hopes of gaining my own tent were vain, for the samiri was now at hand. I closed the curtains in haste, and, stretching myself on the ground, covered my head and face with my 'mashallah.' My companion did the same, and we awaited the passage of the scourge in silent dread.

"The sides of our tent were now shaken with fearful violence. I expected every moment to see it lifted high in the air, and ourselves exposed to the destructive fury of the blast; which makes a speedy tomb for all who oppose its onward progress. The tent was become like a hot bath, and we breathed with the greatest difficulty. I remember well the horror with which, in that moment of terror, I contemplated the idea of dying in the company of an unbeliever. I have lived to entertain more charitable sentiments.

"The storm lasted seven or eight hours, at the end of which we rose from the ground, and, after returning thanks to Almighty God for our preservation, each after her own fashion, I went forth from the tent to see what had been the fate of my own friends. As I passed along the encampment I met crowds, looking like men arisen from the dead, issuing from their tents, and exchanging congratulations upon their recent escape; and turning leeward I beheld the deadly dreaded column holding on its desolating course towards the horizon.

"The tents being now struck, and the camels loaded, we proceeded on our way. In our progress we beheld, with horror, the dead bodies of several Arabs, who had been overtaken by the samiri, scorched to a cinder on the dreary waste."

We cannot close our notice of this work, which is exciting so much sensation in the reading world, without expressing our sympathy with the personal sorrow impressed upon its final pages: as far as that is remedial we trust that the literary effort of this lady may be efficacious towards its removal. There is something convincing in suffering which is itself quite out of the pale of criticism, and we can only express our hope that as the morning and meridian of her life have been so darkly clouded, a brighter sunset may be in store for this Babylonian Princess in our own England.

Modern Painters; their Superiority in the Art of Landscape Painting to all the Ancient Masters. By a Graduate of Oxford. Second Edition.

Our readers will remember that we noticed the first edition of this work in terms of high praise, and we are gratified to find our opinion

of its merits borne out by the fact of its reaching a second edition; a result the more surprising as it is honourable, and must be gratifying to the author, inasmuch as he took the field single-handed, to combat deeply-rooted prejudices, and opinions upon which time had almost set the seal of truth. Indeed the author himself does not appear to have anticipated for his volume the success it has achieved; for he says in his preface, "the work has been received as only in sanguine moments I had ventured to hope." He adds, in the same paragraph, "I have had the pleasure of knowing that in many instances its principles have carried with them a strength of conviction amounting to a demonstration of their truth; and that even where it has had no other influence, it has excited interest, suggested inquiry, and prompted to a just and frank comparison of Art with Nature." Much, if not all of this, we have reason to know has been accomplished.

There is little, if any, new matter in the present edition, excepting a preface of upwards of fifty pages, full of power, eloquence, and poetic feeling; in which the Author takes a few of his critics to task, and shows up the qualifications of some of them in a vein of satire as amusing as it is just. Our Graduate promises us another volume, for which we shall look with the most agreeable anticipation.

Journal of a March from Delhi to Peshâwur, and from thence to Cabul, with the Mission of Lieut.-Colonel Sir C. M. Wade, Knight, C. B. Including Travels in the Punjab, a Visit to the City of Lahore, and a Narrative of Operations in the Khyber Pass, undertaken in 1839.
By LIEUT. WILLIAM BARR, Bengal Horse Artillery.

We have here a right soldierly narrative of some of the passages of service in a soldier's life. Our eastern warfare, exciting so largely a general and almost universal interest, has done more, in the provision for its gratification, in familiarising us with lands so remote, yet in which we have so intimate an association, than could have been the case under any other train of circumstances. Literature in its universal spread pervading every class of society, and widely supplanting coarser relaxations, has induced many of the same hands which handle the sword to wield also the pen. One of the great advantages resulting from such a measure is, that we derive our information from the most authentic sources. How much more accurately can those narrate actions which have been their own, or which they have witnessed, than can be expected from those who derive their knowledge from an interrupted, not to say a corrupted, source? As historical evidence they bear witness of the facts which they have beheld, and which on their testimony become incorporated in our national records. Again, in the narratives of those who relate what they have seen rather than what they have heard, how many incidental and auxiliary facts are brought to light, how much that familiarizes us with manners and customs, and consequently how much additional value should be attached to such productions!

On all these accounts the work before us is entitled to our com-

mendation : but it is amusing also from giving us an animated view of camp-life. Undoubtedly our relations with the Punjab render every species of general information respecting that country of importance, yet as far as relates to the military events, the interest would have been greater at an earlier date. Happily the work has other claims upon public favour. The diary is a good form for conveying the incidents of a military progress. It imparts the impression of a present interest. Its familiarity suits well with the succession of circumstances, sometimes trivial though characteristic, sometimes important. Thus throughout this journal the reader may not only identify the events, but seem to accompany the camp-progress. We gather details of native character ; we find good descriptive views of country : we have a clever picture of Lahore ; and details of the well-known Khyber Pass, and of domestic life in Cabul ; all of them amplifying and filling in the outlines of our own previous knowledge. The illustrations are pleasing and picturesque, and the volume is well deserving of public favour.

We cull a few incidents of travel illustrative of native customs.

" Soon after he had gone, a procession of a very different nature occupied the scene—being a funeral train bearing the corpse of a young woman to the banks of the river, where it was to be burned. The body, wrapped in an orange-coloured piece of cloth, was placed on a ' charpae,'* carried by men—and a few, also, of the male sex occupied the station of our chief mourners, behind whom the women dressed in white, but not of the purest colour, ranged two by two, and followed chanting a dirge. For the completion of the ceremonies they chose a spot not far from our camp ; where, having heaped some logs one upon another, the body was placed on them, and then more wood piled on it. The pyre was soon after set fire to ; on which the mourners commenced to screech and beat one another at a measured time ; this ceasing, and continuing at intervals, until the corpse was entirely consumed."

Here military complaisance seems to have prevailed :

" As this was the principal day of the Hoolie festival, the Hindoos in the detachment, and those in the companies were, as is their custom, flinging a red powder upon every one they met, and nothing would satisfy the native officers until they had bestowed on us a sprinkling, which, however, we insisted should be very slight. My own men, I thought, acted in a more refined manner, as they each brought a rupee or two on a clean napkin, which they presented as a nuzzur, and with the compliment of which we were contented ; though I could not help fancying some of the money did double and even treble duty."

And here a touch of fanaticism :

" About noon, a sudden disturbance arose in the camp, and, on running out of my tent to ascertain its cause, I perceived Rattray in the midst of the Maharajah's soldiers, endeavouring to allay the tumult occasioned by one of Colonel Wade's Chupars, a Mussulman, having grossly abused the founder of the Sikh sect, Baba Nanick. The holy man's followers resented this indignity so warmly, that they were nigh to slaying his defamer on the spot, axes and hatchets being raised to murder him ; and had not R. at once rushed to his rescue, the Chupar's life would have paid for the temerity of his tongue. The Soobedar of the company was immediately sent for, and directed to punish the men concerned in the affray, but in the evening the almost victimized individual presented himself, and sued

* A sort of light bedstead.

for their forgiveness—a request he was no doubt led to make after the reception of a *douceur* to hush up the matter.”

We introduce the Shah-zada and his retinue:

“I was anxious to see the Shah-zada, for whose, and his father’s benefit, the British are involving themselves in an expensive war; and I had my wish gratified this evening, when he quitted his tent to enjoy the freshness of a declining summer’s day, though to him impregnated with a quantity of dust, kicked up by the numerous natives who formed his escort. To overawe the weak minds of the rabble population of Peshawur, as well as to protect him from the evil machinations of any disaffected tribes, the prince, whenever he moves beyond the precincts of the camp, is invariably accompanied by the whole of his personal guards, and a large retinue of irregular cavalry. In the present instance a motley crew of Douranees, who had joined him since his arrival in the valley, led the way, and though wild and picturesque in appearance, there is a scampish look about them, that tells they would be active enough in a scene of plunder, if any such should chance to fall in their way. Their dress is multifarious, each seemingly pleasing himself as to his costume; but those most to be admired wear a flexible mail shirt, gauntlets, and casque of steel, or a Kuz-zilbash cap, formed out of the glossy skin of a jet black lamb, and tapering off towards the top, on which a small red tuft is visible. The Chup-kun, or long Mussulman robe, is very generally used; but its colours vary with the fancy of the wearer, and the turban, consisting as it does of innumerable folds of cloth, is heaped on the head in the most irregular manner, and only kept in unison by the cummurbund being wrapped round the body in as equally slovenly a way. Many wear high boots of rough untanned leather, or sandals laced with thongs; and not a few had on shoes with large hob-nails in the soles. Their complexions, too, differ as much as their dress, some being as fair as Europeans, whilst others are as swarthy as Negroes. A great number dye their beards red, which seems to be a favourite colour, as it is not unusual for them to stain their horses’ legs and tails of the same hue; and the latter appendage is very often tied up in a knot. They were all mounted upon a good and hardy description of pony, and generally armed with a light jhezail, or rifle, and a sword and shield; but a few, in addition to their own weapons, carried a long spear. Discipline is unknown in their ranks; and even the necessity of, in some measure, keeping together as a body apparently is irksome to them. Every one strives to be in front; and now and then an individual would suddenly dart from the midst of the party, and scampering off at full gallop, would fire off his matchlock, and then return to his comrades, at the same rapid pace. I was much interested in their appearance and proceedings, as they formed a fair sample of the much-vaunted Affghan cavalry; and although, no doubt, excellent in their own country, and in contests with the hordes they have hitherto encountered, a charge, on fair ground, from one regiment of European dragoons, would either annihilate them, or literally bear them off the field.

“Next to the Douranees was a company of Rohillas, who dress in long blue chupkuns, green turbans and cummurbunds, and buff trousers. They are armed with matchlocks, and have attained to a slight degree of discipline; and although there was a good deal of confusion in their ranks, they looked quite steady in comparison with the irregulars who had preceded them. Immediately following was the prince, in person, mounted on a stately elephant, and seated on a howdah, highly decorated with silver-gilt ornaments. He was simply attired in a robe of dark blue, with a pure white and very neatly-constructed turban, and being a fine-looking man, about thirty-two years of age, appeared to advantage in a plain costume; but a closer inspection showed that the lineaments of his counte-

nance are stamped with a listless indifference to his situation, and an unyielding apathy to everything around him. Behind him sat his wuzeer, an old man with silver hair, and formerly Shah Shoojah's preceptor. His name is Moolla Shukore. A smaller elephant, with two of the Shahzada's attendants, followed; then another company of Rohillas, and close to them the Risallah, a very well-dressed troop, the men wearing a red 'chupkun' over a green under-coat, and turbans and cummurbunds of the same colour as the latter garment. They are armed with a sword and shield, and a light spear, to which a small pennant is attached. Their saddle-cloths are chequered with red and green, but their horses are inferior to what they should be. Taking them, however, altogether, they form a very smart escort, and do Maule, who has had the trouble of disciplining them, very much credit. Another detachment of Douranee cavalry completed the guard.

We have already said that the work deserves a good reception: our extracts will confirm our report.

Sydney Morcom.

The brief though sensibly written preface which ushers in this tale predisposed us to find something more sterling than the average ingredients of love and fashion; nor were we disappointed. There is a masculine vigour in the author's mind, and a power of arranging consecutive events, amply sufficient to separate him from the class of every-day novelists. Love is merely an incidental auxiliary, and there is little or nothing of fashion. The history of Sydney Morcom is composed of sterner stuff.

Notwithstanding its merit, the work carries the signs of being a first attempt. Although approbation greatly preponderates, yet are there some specks of faults. The opening is faulty. The son of a rich and noble house, though at variance with its head, was still not in a condition to need the charitable counsel of the poor woman in whose cottage he was accidentally lodged, nor his daughter to be in any degree cast upon her bounty. Sydney Morcom had still a wealthy friend in his own mother, and his child influential relations in those of hers. The circumstances did not warrant the recital of their history to an inferior and a stranger. Again, in a work so decidedly moral, Sydney Morcom's disobedience to his parent is passed over without its just reprehension. A cool, determined, long-premeditated, open defiance of just authority, is infinitely worse than an impulse of the passions and a clandestine indulgence of self-will. Yet our author does not appear to have perceived the turpitude of his acknowledged hero's conduct, making the meek wife take the side of the disobedient, and publicly sanction the act by her approving presence.

But we turn to the more agreeable task of noticing the merits of the work, and these are of no trifling order. Sydney Morcom is not the real hero, but his brother Andrew. Happily for the world, such characters are seldom seen, and yet they are seen just often enough to enable us to say that they are true to nature. That is, true to a nature which, in spite of the acknowledged depravity of the world, is but rarely found in our humanity—a sort of phoenix of depravity. The character is indeed a study; intricate, subtle, abundant in re-

sources, ready to take instant advantage of the slightest perceptible pregnable point, with the readiest self-command, and the firmest reliance on self-capability. Neither are these resources of the intellect resorted to for the purpose of covering the consequences of the passions. The mind of Andrew Morcom seems to have experienced a positive pleasure in the exercise of its faculties. Their ready use appears more the assertion of power—and the possession of power is always a satisfaction—than a resource which is the result of necessity. And herein appears to us the marked difference between the intellectual and the moral villain. It may be objected to the probability of this character that he is old in guile while he is young in years, but experience tells us that such men as these are never young. Their character is not the result of education—not even an education tending to perfect them in craft and guile—but inherent, and often most powerful in youth. Possibly, as life advances, and time softens the force of motives, there may be a something approaching to a yielding of the heart; but undoubtedly there are a few solitary individuals, met with so rarely as for them ever to remain a marvel and a wonder, in whom dissimulation is at its prime in their early days; and inasmuch as mind is always estimated and valued, perhaps at a price higher than its worth, it is difficult to despise that which has a mastering influence. The author of this work has displayed extraordinary powers in tracing out the various labyrinths of his hero's spirit. He has almost expended himself upon this one portraiture. The dominancy of power attends him throughout his course. Never wholly baffled, still master through every adverse circumstance, it is only by *time* and *suffering* that Andrew Morcom is at last overtaken.

We do not enter into any analysis of the plot of this work, because it is one which deserves perusal. A living and animated interest pervades Sydney Morcom. The personages have a reality, and it has the great merit of improving to the end: its morality is unexceptionable, and its religion pure.

We give a few glimpses of the character of Andrew Morcom.

Here is the man, with his one affection, watching over his dying boy.

“ ‘My lot,’ he said, as he pursued his way, ‘is far from a happy one; and yet how could it be otherwise? I have not desired or sought happiness, as others have done. My ambition has been of that order which cannot co-exist with tranquillity. I have dared, schemed, temporized, and have hitherto been successful. As long as I had only to contend with obstacles which roused my passions and taxed my ingenuity, I triumphed; but never suspected that I was amenable to the feelings which now unnerve and oppress me. I had resolved, in my plan of action, to reject all the seducing tendernesses which wind about the heart; to have, in my dealings with humanity, no ‘pitying ruth;’ to act upon the affections of others, but to have none of my own. But here I am the powerless devotee of one idol of feeling. I am a widower—that bereavement I endured calmly: I am now a father—and soon to be childless. For what have I toiled, risked, dissimulated, sinned? If I at last, as the fruit of my policy, possess all I have aimed at—my possession will be desolate and solitary. My child gone—(here a violent convulsion shook his frame)—I live alone: and when I die——truly I have laboured in vain.’ ”

July 1844.—VOL. XL.—NO CLIX.

M

And here he has received letters which threaten to unveil him.

"During the reading of these letters, a stranger could have seen no change in Andrew Morcom's manner. He was the very image of dark and intense concentration. Nothing escaped him; and when he had finished, every character was burned in upon his brain. After a long pause, he said, 'Other proofs! what can this mean? No written communications have passed that I can remember—perhaps a vague scrap or so, which I think I could deal with, or explain away. But what is to be done? Sir Reginald I have managed before, and may again. My meek and soulless brother is not *very* formidable; Brampton and Halesworthy I have already damaged—and as to this well-meaning Quaker (with a sneer), I have merely to tell him to mind his own business.

"No, gentlemen,' he said, dashing down the letters which he had previously gathered up; 'no—I am not in the toils yet; or, if I am, I will rend them. So, my very aristocratic father, you merely Andrew Morcom me, and write as to a guilty outcast—ha! ha! you have your favourite again, (here he looked black as night,) and it is easy to throw off the *second* son, and persuade yourself you are acting most righteously; but do not imagine that the cup, which you think your future portion, will be sweet. I will yet dash it with the gall of my own wrongs, or with the henbane of my still more poisoned spirit—ha! What! Sydney is to be the high-minded, generous, all-forgiving brother, and I the creeping, penitent, sinning one, suing for pardon, which is given as a pitying dole, and then I am to be pensioned on his bounty. The Quaker, too, tells me I am to submit. Submit! poor old man of sober drab and plain speech, you little know how that word sounds in *my* vocabulary. Language has not one so hateful to my ears. To whom should I submit, while I have the power to rule or to resist? Submit!—had I lived in the times of those monster emperors whose arena I saw a few days since, and which, centuries ago, was stained with the blood of men and beasts, I would have fought all the tigers in the imperial menagerie before I would have crouched in submission at the imperial footstool. And must I submit to be rebuked like a rebellious schoolboy—to yield my stern and energetic spirit to the commonplace softness of Sydney's temper—to be chidden by a narrow sectarian—to have the finger of scorn pointed at me as the villain brother; the foil, to set off the virtues of the good one? Little do they know me who propose such humiliation. No; I will back, and that instantly. I will meet, confront, and defy them all. I will still be the persecuted and the injured, and will master them, or brave ruin. It is but a fiction, but it is a magnificent one, and enough to immortalize Milton had he done no more—Moloch urging the fiends to war against Omnipotence. I can fancy I see the splendid, though ruined spirit, rising with the port of a hero, and the majesty of a God. It was a hopeless struggle, but how boldly he urged to it, and how grand is his attitude, as he stands confronting the artillery of the Eternal. A chafed, but stern and unflinching spirit, single-handed against a host, is the noblest sight in the world—if he triumph he is a victor, and if he fall, he is a hero still!

"Grasper—humph! so he has robbed me to the amount of three thousand pounds; he has also betrayed me—sneaking villain! He will be hanged, of course; and surely such a miscreant won't be believed. Robinson I never had any personal communication with; I wonder how he has escaped so long—he has been a desperate wretch.

"But now for action. I must be vigilant, cool, and, above all, self-possessed. I must take leave of Crosby, and depart at once. Crosby would be of no use to me if he went, because he would not take ten minutes' trouble to save me, or any one, from perdition. Still he suits me; we are both men-haters, and our hatred differs only in form. I will go to him; I don't think,' he said, looking in the glass, 'that he will see any traces of disturbance.'"

“ ‘They all breathe the same spirit, and give the same hints,’ said Andrew Morcom, as he finished reading the letters; ‘they advise me to avoid the inquiry, and to repent and be reconciled. Do they not see that this giving up all—all that I have struggled, waited, hoped, and sinned for? No! if I am beaten it shall be after a hard fight, and even then there shall be no surrender. My father dotes, and yields in all such cases to the last and nearest influence. The best turn for me now would be his sudden removal, before he has time to alter his will, which the sense of justice he talks so much about, will hardly have allowed him to do yet, while I am demanding inquiry. If I can keep him from that, my main point is gained. So I have roused the amiable Sydney at last—the christian, all-forgiving Sydney, who so meekly turns his face to the smiter. What, the hot blood of the Morcom is in him—not quite all sanctified yet—eh? Ha! ha! ha! what hypocrites we all are! In some it takes one form, and in others a different one—I am the bitter, and he the saintly counterfeit. His acting has paid him but indifferently hitherto, but perhaps quite as well as it deserved. Mine, although I have had a dark cast of characters, has been more profitable. Honest Iago has been a match for the unsuspecting Othello; but the Moor is getting fiery at the *denouement*; we shall soon be in the last scene—and then for the issue. I wish that Quaker would mind his meetings, and cellar visitings, and let affairs like ours, so far above his rank and habits, alone. These quiet and imperturbable fellows are often very unmanageable. You cannot get them up and throw them off their guard, and when they once fasten on a notion, they will stick to it without flinching. They have neither souls nor ears for all one’s rhetoric. But I am in, and must fight myself out. I will meet them at all events, and trust to the chapter of accidents.’ ”

And here when disappointed of his expected inheritance.

“ When the lawyer had ceased reading, Andrew Morcom’s countenance was absolutely terrible. His control was gone. The practised actor of so many years could sustain his part no longer.

“ Sir Sydney Morcom saw, and was shocked and alarmed by his brother’s look and manner. ‘Dear Andrew,’ he said, rising, ‘it need not be thus: willingly, joyfully, will I share—’

“ ‘But it *is* thus!’ thundered Andrew Morcom, with a voice that startled every one, and sounded in its piercing power like the ringing of a gong, ‘it *is* thus, and it *shall* be thus. Think you that I will receive as a dole anything from *you*? I would rather cast myself unclothed on the wildest mountains, in the bitterest night that ever froze to ice the current of the blood, than owe anything to *you*. Take your ill-gotten gains, the fruits of years of unnatural conspiracy, and wrung at last from the quenched mind of a dying paralytic. Look at that signature! Think you that the will which directed that could have been under the influence of a sound judgment? Truly, you have gained a noble triumph! When defeated—when your plans were detected and exposed—when the tide of calumny which came rushing on me was rolled back upon yourselves—when the hand of Heaven fell on our father, and I was mourning in my chamber as became a sorrowing son—you and your confederates were practising on his feebleness, who, years before, and in the full possession of his faculties, had ordered and settled his affairs. Was it for this that you sat so meekly by the bed-side, obtruding your officiousness, and superseding the offices of menials—and that this sober hypocrite, this meddling sectarian, was so much closeted with my dying parent? I leave you never to see you more; but, from this, let all take warning who they admit to the deathbeds of their friends, and let them especially beware of itinerant philanthropists—those who, in the garb of modesty and piety, are full of pride, selfishness, and malignity, and who, with the condemnation of vain-glory

on the lip, are more than rivals of those ancient hypocrites, who made 'broad their phylacteries.'"

And here after a little reflection.

"When Andrew Morcom had read the letter of his father, he said,— 'Written by the Quaker, I see; but it matters not. Now they think they have conquered me—but no! I am not conquered yet! In the solitude of my own spirit, I am prouder than ever. They'll banish me—but I was before them there—like Diogenes, if they banish me from Sinope, I will banish them to it. They little know the resources of a spirit like mine, freer, more elastic, more self-possessed and energetic, alone, than in a world of hollow conventionalisms, and maudlin sympathies. These miserable dependents on customs and habits, on visitings and revisitings, dream not of the conscious power of the mind's own concentration in itself, a concentration so intensely simplified, brought to such a oneness and unity, that its very solitude is its sphere and its elysium, as if a man with the stern soul of uneffeminated manhood within him, could not vegetate on the indigenous productions of his own mind, without being dependent on the supplies of meaner souls. 'But man is a social creature, he cannot exist without society and without sympathy,' so they say; well, if it be so, Crosby's theory is the best. Keep your purse full, and mine is full enough after all, and friends will come in troops, and when you have endured their inanity, and perhaps visited yours on them, you can retire into the fortress of your own armed spirit. I may not have done with them yet. I will await the chapter of accidents. I may pounce upon my prey when they think my beak, my talons, broken. I have a long memory—and they may find I have a long arm. In the mean time I am for Italy and Vincent Crosby.'"

And finally.

"'Why,' said Andrew Morcom, when left alone, 'do they harass me thus? Why not let us remain as we are? There can never be another conflict between us. I have done with ambition, for I have nearly done with life. If a crown were now before me, what would it avail me to seize it with dying hands, and place it on brows already wet with the dews of death? May I not confess to myself, what shall never be confessed to mortal ears, that my policy has been false, and my life wasted? I have had talents, energy, opportunities—subservient, unscrupulous, and despite failure, able agents. I have had both subtlety and boldness. I have been a match, in the sharpest conflicts of the wits, for all who have assailed me. For fifteen years I succeeded, when untoward circumstances occurring in my absence, I had the struggle to renew. I contended hardly, but I could produce no conviction. I lost all I had schemed and sinned for—my father's preference and the inheritance. I had nothing left but my own pride, and within that, as my stronghold, I retired. But I miscalculated my strength and security. In a moment disease rendered me helpless, and now I am approached in a way which threatens to subdue me at last. I am undermined by the only agent that could have done it—my *one* affection. Must I capitulate, or hold out still? No—no—I cannot, will not meet him. They know not how hard it is for a soul like mine to yield. But am I fighting against a power that cannot be resisted? Is there a will that shapes our ends and controls our destiny? Has an all-seeing eye been on me, and has an arm I saw not, been permitting or checking, trying or frustrating, and at length is it overwhelming me? I trusted to my own resources, and thought myself, or acted as if I thought myself, independent. And was I but an endured and controlled instrument, to be laid aside and broken, when my ministry was accomplished? This is the doctrine of many. I cannot comprehend it; I am bewildered, lost in mystery, and can only wait the issue.'"

The United States of America ; their History from the Earliest Period ; their Industry, Commerce, Banking Transactions, and Natural Works ; their Institutions and Character, Political, Social, and Literary ; with a Survey of the Territory, and Remarks on the Prospects and Plans of Emigrants. By HUGH MURRAY, F.R.S.E., with Illustrations of the Natural History, by James Nicol. Portraits and other Engravings by Jackson.

The series of valuable publications issued by the proprietors of the Edinburgh Cabinet Library, present us with none more worthy of notice and estimation than the one just completed, "The United States of America." It is undoubtedly true that no portion of the globe possesses higher claims of interest on our home country than these transatlantic settlements, bearing as they do the relationship of children, speaking our own language, and deriving their national existence from us. As a spectacle of public interest, also, it is almost without counterpart. The history of America presents us with a view of a mere handful of men dropped in an all but illimitable wilderness, dilating with unparalleled rapidity into a gigantic community. Not advancing to civilization and refinement by slow developements, but carrying with them to their new locations all the processes of commercial industry. And thus the embryo elements expanding at once into a great nation, for great they undoubtedly are in many and important respects. The simple fact that with the spirit they had also the power of asserting and establishing their own independence, is sufficient to establish and stamp that truth upon us.

The thirst for gold, prevalent as it is and has ever been, raged with marked fury in the fifteenth century. The discoveries of Columbus, investing the Spanish monarchy with so vast a redundancy of wealth, inspired hopes and emulation, if not envy, and led neighbouring nations to aspire to similar conquests and possessions. Other sections of the vast continent of America offered like golden hopes, and Virginia became the land of promise. Its lustrous globules and yellow shining metal induced the belief that pearls and gold abounded as richly as in Mexico ; but the gems and the ore both being found spurious, disappointment followed on the track of hope. And yet gold was assuredly produced from the land, but it was the gold of commerce. A despised weed that overspread the country became transmuted into the precious metal, and Tobacco was the recompense of those who thought to find wealth in the sands of every rolling river.

Thus provided with at least one stable article of commerce, the settlement of Virginia, though often interrupted, and generally languishing, yet gradually took root, and became the foundation of a parent state. In the vast districts of the surrounding country, bands of men, either impelled by poverty, or forced by religious persecutions, settled down in different localities ; and the seed thus scattered germinated with surprising rapidity, until the States, subsequently united, grew into strength and power.

Much has been written in the two countries respecting America, and though the amount of information thus made available is extensive, yet in the first place being scattered, and in the second most generally, and at the same time most naturally, being tinged with the

prejudices of opposing interests, such a work as the present one was highly desirable. We consider both the selection of the subject, and its execution, as a most judicious portion of the series which the "Edinburgh Cabinet Library" has laid before the public. Mr. Murray has executed his task in a manner as creditable to himself as it will be valuable to the world. That rare feature, impartiality, he has studiously preserved throughout, and this is the more to be commended, since we have scarcely yet reached a date that might clear us from political prejudices or party feelings.

A strong love of religious liberty breathes through all his narrative, but this is a principle that we must honour. His researches have been laborious, his labour unsparing, and the result accordingly. Commencing with Virginia, and then passing to the other States, he has given us an ample, impartial, and interesting history of all up to the time of the declaration of Independence, in his first volume. The second embraces the history of the war which so fiercely contested that declaration; the political constitution of the country; its agriculture, manufactures, domestic commerce, public works, banking institutions, and foreign commerce. The third describes to us the tone of manners and the habits of social life in America, treats of slaves and slavery, religion, literature, geology, botany, topography, and emigration, concluding with an historical sketch, bringing down the history to a very recent period.

The work is naturally more complete than any other work which we possess on the same subject, inasmuch as it comprises the leading information to be gathered from all. It is at once valuable in plan and execution, useful as a work of reference, and agreeable as one of mere perusal. We give a chapter on domestic manners.

"Foreigners complain also of rude provision for the conveniences and comforts of life, and the neglect of little niceties and delicacies, which are felt as necessary by those accustomed to a more refined circle. These deficiencies almost irresistibly arise from the train of colonial life. The new settler has indeed the means of plenty before him; but to make them available, he must engage in a rough struggle with nature, to which his time and powers are scarcely adequate; while help cannot be obtained without great difficulty and expense. He must content himself, therefore, with hastily getting through the most essential processes, omitting matters of ornament and indulgence. Becoming accustomed to live without these, he ceases to feel them needful to his comfort, and even when he reaches abundance or wealth, cares not to take the additional trouble of procuring them. In the maritime cities, indeed, which constantly communicate with Europe, this obvious imperfection has been greatly removed; but in the interior, and still more in the west, it is still noticed. As a specimen, Mr. Stuart mentions, that beyond Albany bells were not used, while the place of egg-cups was inconveniently supplied by glasses. Washington describes a ball at Alexandria, where the tables were covered with pocket-handkerchiefs instead of cloths; but this, we presume, would not now occur. The steam-vessels are fitted up with studied splendour and every convenience; but in the canal-boats the old system still flourishes. Mr. Stevenson mentions, that the captain of one in which he sailed assumed the entire command over the passengers, and did not exercise it with much civility. The cabin was completely filled with hammocks, arranged in three tiers, the heaviest persons being made to occupy the lowest, with the view of ballasting the vessel. At five in the

morning, they were all summoned to come on deck, till the sleeping apparatus could be removed, and the apartment prepared for breakfast; and at nine in the evening, all were again called up till the beds could be replaced, which they were then obliged to occupy. One towel, brush, and comb, were hung at the cabin-door, for the general use of the party; and for their common ablutions, a gigantic tin vessel, filled with water, was fastened to the stern. Mr. Combe further relates, that the beds, on being taken down, were piled together in a heap, and when replaced, no attention was paid that each should receive his own; a good fortune for which, from the great number, no one could reasonably hope. The doors and windows of the apartment, forty-two feet long, in which thirty-five men were sleeping, being kept fast closed, the air became infected, and a painful sense of suffocation ensued; while on the couches being removed, horrid effluvia were exhaled. The ladies cabin, though only twelve feet, contained nineteen, and ten children. These circumstances severely affected the health of a number of the passengers, though they appeared insensible of the cause.

"The inns and hotels, of course, occupy much of the attention of foreigners; and indeed the constant movement for political, commercial, and emigrant purposes, requires them to be more numerous, and on a greater scale than in any other country. Astor House, in New York, makes up 500 beds. The imperfection of those in the west will be presently noticed; but in the old states they are provided with every European accommodation. Some of the arrangements are, however, peculiar. Every meal is taken by the whole company in public, at a common table; and it is very difficult to procure refreshments at any intermediate period. There is no drinking after dinner, the company beginning even to break up before the meal is concluded; but liquors can always be had at the bar, around which a social circle is sometimes formed. Complaints are made by some of want of civility in the attendants. It is admitted that there is an absence of that obsequious courtesy which is shown in this country to persons of high rank; and that this, when claimed with airs of superiority, will be decidedly repelled. A stranger, however, who conforms to the ideas of the country, and deals with the servant as man with man, will be coldly, perhaps, but satisfactorily attended to. The females who, in every rank, are accustomed to particular respect, discharge the duties of waiting with especial coolness, and hesitate not to sit down in the apartment when unemployed. The business of hotels is considerably extended by the custom of many individuals boarding in them, which by single men is considered both convenient and economical. It is not unfrequent even with married people for some years, till their family increases; a practice very foreign to British ideas, and of which many doubt the expediency. Mr. Hamilton complains of the intricacy of the passages in those great hotels, rendering the discovery of a particular apartment a matter of speculation, and requiring a search like that of Parry for the north-west passage; but we cannot say, that in large English inns the internal arrangement in this respect are so superior as to afford much room for triumph. It may be urged, perhaps, in excuse for both, that such houses are usually formed by successive additions, which are not easily made to harmonize with each other.

"From this subject the transition is natural to the food served up at public and private tables. This is allowed to be abundant, and of good quality. Such is particularly the case as to poultry and game, which are indeed often combined, since the turkey, the duck, and other domestic species are found here wild, and of excellent flavour. English palates, however, are not perfectly satisfied with the mode in which it is cooked and served up. The sauces are said to be unskilfully concocted, too rich and greasy. Mrs. Trollope remarks on some singular combinations; as eggs and oysters; ham with apple sauce; steaks stewed with peaches;

yet it might perhaps be difficult to decide on what principle some of our own conjunctions take place. Pies, puddings, and sweetmeats are favourite dishes, and, with meat, are presented at breakfast and in the evening, as well as at dinner. The favourite wines are madeira and claret, port being seldom used.

"Some particulars specially relating to the labouring class may conclude this notice. Their means of physical well-being are, as already observed, decidedly superior to those in Britain, or any country of Europe. A great proportion possess property in land, while those who work for wages obtain a much higher remuneration. Yet Mrs. Trollope maintains that their condition is not really superior; which she imputes to their expenditure on victuals, including animal food three times a day, to the quantity of liquor consumed, and their more frequent intervals of ill health. Yet the larger amount of income seems in itself an undoubted advantage, however they may fail in turning it to the best account. Dr. Channing indeed also regrets this superfluity in diet, as injurious to health, and diverting their money from better purposes. The practice of boarding among the single and newly married is still more general than among the higher classes. Their residence, however, is not in hotels, but in houses kept for the express purpose, where they are supplied with three meals a-day, each including fish, meat, pastry, and fruit. Their lodging space, however, is very confined, each sleeping apartment containing almost always several beds, with two persons in each. As it is not expected that the boarder shall spend much time in the public room, unless at meals, he has little means of employing his leisure at home. This too naturally induces the habit of attending places of public amusement or drinking houses; in which last, the entertainment as usual is not social, nor leading to turbulent intoxication. When the visitor enters he finds a long bar with a great variety of liquors, and a glass being handed to him, he fills it out of the one which he prefers. An ample supply of newspapers is prepared for his perusal; but games of different kinds are much played and often at high stakes. We may thus see, in regard to America, the insufficiency of mere moderation, and the importance of entirely discountenancing attendance at these haunts. Yet a certain amount of time and money is bestowed on intellectual improvement, which, though not very large, exceeds considerably that contributed by any similar population in the old world. Dress is another article on which the workman spends more than the same class elsewhere. This taste may be considered so far laudable, though often carried, it is said, to a foolish excess. Hence, however, the people on the whole make a remarkably respectable appearance, and no symptom of absolute poverty is exhibited; yet close observers assure us, that the great cities present not a few examples of extreme wretchedness, chiefly occasioned, however, by intemperance or other misconduct."

A Gazetteer of the Countries adjacent to India on the North-west; including Scinde, Affghanistan, Beloochistan, the Punjaub, and the Neighbouring States. Compiled by the authority of the Hon. Court of Directors of the East India Company; and chiefly from Documents in their possession. By EDWARD THORNTON, Esq., Author of the "History of the British Empire in India."

The value of this work is at once apparent, and coming from so high a source, and the result of the labours of a gentleman so highly qualified, the worthiness of its execution is at once established. Recent events have undoubtedly excited a public interest in the countries to which it

relatés, and it is equally true that no ordinary gazetteer can meet the requirements of the present day. We cannot read an official report of the state of our relations with the East, we cannot enter into the course of our military movements, we cannot take up a familiar newspaper nor open one of those books of travel which our struggles in India have made to abound, without feeling the necessity of a work of authority to which we may refer, and on which we may depend. Mr. Thornton, whose work entitled "*The History of the British Empire in India*," so full of deep research and patient investigation, and which now deservedly ranks as a standard document, was exactly the gentleman best fitted by his previous labours to produce the present one. Compiled by the authority of the East India Company, in a great measure from documents in their possession, Mr. Thornton has spared no exertions to complete his information from every available source: with this purpose he has not only explored English but likewise continental literature; and still further, and for the sake of identification and completeness of information, he has also collected all that could be found having a reference to these countries in the authors of Greece and Rome.

But to use Mr. Thornton's own words—

"The Gazetteer is thus an epitome of all that has yet been written and published respecting the countries adjacent to, and westward of, the Indus. On this ground alone it might support a claim to the character of a convenient and useful compilation, presenting to the reader within a brief compass, a mass of information which could not otherwise be obtained, except from a multiplicity of volumes in many languages, some of them of high price, and others not easily procurable. But this is not its only, nor even its principal, claim. The stores of information derived from books are, indeed, considerable, but they yield in value as well as in extent, to the amount of matter hitherto unpublished and even unexplored, excepting by those whose official duties have led them to the pursuit. Under the authority of the Court of Directors of the East India Company, the treasures of their vast collections have been opened for the purposes of the present work; and from the researches thus sanctioned, its chief value is derived."

Recent events have made this work almost a requisition in literature. Its sources are of the highest authority. The ability and industry brought to its execution unimpeachable.

The Poetical Works of Leigh Hunt.

Tragedies, to which are added a few Sonnets and Verses. By T. N. TALFOURD.

Philip Van Artevelde; a Dramatic Romance. By HENRY TAYLOR.

English Songs and other Small Poems. By BARRY CORNWALL.

All these are new, neat, and cheap editions of these respective works. It is now too late in the day to criticise the several merits of these authors; each enjoys his own reputation. It is always with pleasure that we note the publication of the works of well-known authors in a shape which makes them available to a wide public range.

July 1844.—VOL. XL.—NO. CLIX.

N

These editions are exactly on such a plan, and leave nothing to desire. They are all peculiarly well got up.

The Friend of Youth; or, a Series of Papers addressed to the Young on the Duties of Life. By WILLIAM MACKENZIE.

A modest and unpretending little volume, written for the moral instruction of youth. The subjects take in an extensive range of the virtues and the vices; with others having reference to literature. The intention and execution are both of a class to merit approbation.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

- Hyde Marston, or a Sportsman's Life. By Craven. 3 vols. post 8vo. 1l. 11s. 6d.
 India, Egypt, and the Persian Gulf. By V. Fontanier. Vol. I. 8vo. 14s.
 Coningsby, or the New Generation. By B. Disraeli, Esq., M. P. Second Edition. 3 vols. post 8vo. 1l. 11s. 6d.
 Lord Brougham's Political Philosophy. Vol. III., 8vo. 10s.; Part III., Division II., 8vo. 5s.
 Lord Brougham on the British Constitution. 8vo. 3s. 6d.
 The History of China and India. By Miss Corner. 8vo. 1l.
 The Life of Admiral Sir Hugh Palliser, Bart. 8vo. 16s.
 Johnston's Travels in Southern Abyssinia. 2 vols 8vo. 1l. 8s.
 Afloat and Ashore, or the adventures of Miles Wallingford. By J. F. Cooper. 3 vols. post 8vo. 1l. 11s. 6d.
 Our Actresses, or Glances at Stage Favourites, Past and Present. By Mrs. C. B. Wilson. 2 vols. post 8vo. 1l. 4s.
 Spain and the Spaniards in 1843. By Capt. S. E. Widdrington. 2 vols. 8vo. 1l. 4s.
 Edith Leslie. A Novel. 3 vols post 8vo. 1l. 11s. 6d.
 Two Months Abroad, or a Trip to England, France, &c. 8vo. 1s. 6d.
 Correspondence of the Right Hon. Edmund Burke. Edited by Earl Fitzwilliam and Sir R. Bourke. 4 vols. 8vo. 2l. 8s.
 The Poems of T. Coleridge. Foolscep 8vo. 6s.
 The White Lady and Undine; Tales from the German. Foolscep 8vo. 7s.
 Mrs. Abell's Recollections of Napoleon at St. Helena. Post 8vo. 10s. 6d.

THE COMMERCIAL RELATIONS OF THE COUNTRY.

UPON the whole, the aspects of our commercial interests, and the state of the produce markets, remains the same since our last report. Dealers appear disinclined to purchase at existing rates, whilst holders retain their firmness. Still a tolerable business has been transacted. The supplies of wheat have been sufficiently large from the home countries, in addition to ample deliveries from abroad. In Tea there has been a slight fall of price, only moderate purchases have been made, though a large quantity remains on hand. The Coffee market, though well supplied, has also somewhat declined in prices. In Cotton the business has been dull, attended with a lowering of rates.

MONEY MARKET.—No appearance of improvement in the value of money has been manifested during the month. Brokers have found some difficulty in employing the deposits of their customers on anything like favourable terms. Some doubt was manifested in the City, during the uncertainty as to the Sugar Duties' Bill, as to the probable continuance of the ministry, which had a tendency to depress quotations. Our securities also suffered some slight deterioration on the arrival of the news from America of some indications of warfare between that country and Mexico. The only transaction of any moment in the money market has been the purchase by the Chancery broker of 100,000l., which gave something like tone to its transactions. We ought also to notice, that the London bankers have addressed a sort of expostulatory letter to Sir Robert Peel, on the inconvenient effects which they considered must attend the

limiting the issues of the Bank of England to 14,000,000*l.* in seasons of commercial pressure, and expressing a desire that a reserve should be held at the discretion of the Crown. The Premier having, however, declined again to entertain the subject, it appears for the present dropped.

PRICES OF THE PUBLIC FUNDS.

On Wednesday, 26th of June.

ENGLISH STOCKS.

Three per Cent. Consols for Acct. 99 three-eighths.—Three per Cents. Consols, Anns. 98 one-half.—Three and a Half per Cents. Anns. 102 five-eighths.—Indian Stock, Acct. 284.—Exchequer Bills, Small, 1½*d.* 72*s.* 74*s.* pm.

FOREIGN STOCKS.

Dutch Two and Half per Cent. 62½.—Spanish Five per Cents. Acct. 23 five-eighths.—Spanish Three per Cents. 35 three-fourths.—Mexican Five per Cents. 35 one fourth.—Dutch Five per Cent. 100 three-fourths.

BANKRUPTS.

FROM MAY 28 TO JUNE 21, 1844, INCLUSIVE.

May 28.—E. G. Flight, Adam-street, Adelphi, publisher.—E. Louis, Gerard-street, Soho, wholesale perfumer.—E. Oxley, jun., King's Lynn, Norfolk, batter.—T. Brand, Stamford-street, Blackfriars, livery-stablekeeper.—J. Sison, Brighton, dealer in toys.—J. Berwick, Windhill, Yorkshire, worsted stuff manufacturer.—T. Kearsley and T. Watt, Runcorn, Cheshire, bone merchants.—W. Monk, jun., Nottingham, carrier.—J. Barnard, Cheltenham, clothes dealer.

May 31.—B. Land, St. Albans, victualler.—W. Dethick, Temple-street, Whitefriars, lime merchant.—H. R. Harraden, Cambridge, print-seller.—Q. B. V. J. Anichini, Benet's place, Gracechurch-street, merchant.—J. Mardall, New Shoreham, insurance broker.—E. Tyndale, Ross, Herefordshire, wine merchant.—J. Mitchell, Nottingham, fellmonger.—T. Newton, Holbeach, cattle dealer.—R. Baxter, Sheffield, merchant.—F. L. Homer, Manchester, merchant.—T. Beech, Newcastle-under-Lyme, grocer.—W. Lynn, Liverpool, hotel keeper.—J. and S. Owen, Sheffield, merchants.

June 4.—T. Stephens, Newgate-street, umbrella manufacturer.—J. Clark, Abington, Cambridgeshire, draper.—R. Coleman and E. R. Hall, Colchester, ironfounders.—C. Alderton, Brighton, tailor.—W. Line, Ramsgate, builder.—E. Sedgwick, Hythe, Kent, scrivener.—W. H. Bates, Birmingham, factor.—J. Smith, Warwick, wine merchant.—B. Norman, and E. Buckman, Cheltenham, ironmongers.—L. Jones, Barmouth, Merionethshire, corn and flour seller.

June 7.—J. Batten, Tilehurst, Berks, cattle-dealer.—J. Levett, Soham, Cambridgeshire, carpenter.—J. Young, Aldermanbury, laceman.—

W. Barnes, Ludgate-hill, bonnet-maker.—G. Fielding, Thame, Oxfordshire, ironmonger.—J. B. W. Knight, St. James's-walk, Clerkenwell, printer.—W. Turner, Manchester, cabinet-maker.—J. L. Smith, Leicester, cabinet-maker.—G. Jenkinson, Wolverhampton, butcher.—J. Parker, Kingston-upon-Hull, corn-miller.—S. H. Spence, Leeds, maltster.

June 11.—J. Heward, Hendon, Middlesex, hay salesman.—D. Ross, Little Love-lane, City, warehouseman.—F. Rogers, Cooknoe, Northamptonshire, miller.—J. Deatry, Burslem, Staffordshire, grocer.—G. Grove, Wick and Abson, Gloucestershire, miller.—H. Lake, Cheltenham, printer.

June 14.—D. Macfarlane, Berners-street, Oxford-street, wine-merchant.—A. Thompson, Southampton, grocer.—H. Wood, Basinghall-street, City, woollen-factor.—R. Musgrove, Birmingham, woollen-draper.—T. Johnson, sen., W. Johnson, and C. Mann, Romford, Essex, bankers.—J. Taylor, Liverpool, commission merchant.

June 18.—J. Holland, Buxted, Sussex, draper.—T. Leaver, Great Coxwell, Berkshire, baker.—W. E. Dray, Heathfield, Sussex, grocer.—H. Peacock and J. Peacock, Stockton-upon-Tees, Durham, grocers.

June 21.—G. Stent, Pleasant-place, Camberwell, builder.—J. Smith, Southampton, corn-merchant.—W. Mowbray, Wheathampstead, Hertfordshire, butcher.—M. Sweetland, John-street, Fitzroy-square, baker.—J. Tucker, Sutton street, Commercial road East, shipowner.—G. Craven, Wakefield, maltster.—G. Harwood, Chester, draper.—E. Heron, Hartlepool, Durham, butcher.

NEW PATENTS.

P. A. Le Comte de Fontainemoreau, of Skinners's Place, Sise Lane, Merchant, for a new mode of constructing barometers and other pneumatic instruments. April 27th, 6 months. Communication.

J. Dixon, of Wolverhampton, Iron Master, for improvements in heating air for blast furnaces, and for other uses. April 27th, 6 months.

A. Wall, of Bisterne Place, Poplar, Surgeon, for certain improvements in the manufacture of steel, copper, and other metals. April 27th, 6 months.

J. Clarke and S. Fletcher, of Hulme, Lancaster, Machine Makers, for certain improvements in wheels to be used in slubbing or bobbin frames, and in roving or jack frames, and for other purposes, and also in the engine by which such wheels are or may be cut. April 27th, 6 months.

I. Davies, of Birmingham, Engineer, for certain improvements in steam-engines, part of which improvements are applicable to impelling wheel-carriages. April 27th, 6 months.

E. Cobbold, of Melfard, M.A., Clerk, for improvements in the preparation of

peat, rendering it applicable to several useful purposes, particularly for fuel. April 27th, 6 months.

W. Clarke, of Nottingham, Lace Manufacturer, for improvements in machinery for manufacturing ornamented bobbin-net or twist lace. April 30th, 6 months.

W. Jeffries, of Little Sussex Place, Hyde Park Gardens, for improvements in sweeping chimneys, and an apparatus to prevent chimneys from smoking. April 30th, 6 months.

R. Gordon, of Heaton Foundry, Stockport, Millwright and engineer, for improvements in grinding wheat and other grain, and in dressing flour or meal, which improvements in grinding are also applicable to grinding cements and other substances. April 30th, 6 months.

W. Fairbairn and J. Hetherington, both of Manchester, Engineers, for certain improvements in stationary steam-boilers, and in the furnaces and flues connected therewith. April 30th, 6 months.

J. Samuda, of the Southwark Iron Works, Engineer, and J. D. Samuda, of the same place, Engineer, for certain improvements in the manufacture and arrangement of parts and apparatus for the construction and working of atmospheric railways. April 30th, 6 months.

J. Melville, of Upper Harley Street, Middlesex, Esquire, for improvements in the construction and modes of working railroads. April 30th, 6 months.

J. Hayman, of Mount Street, Lambeth, Corn Dealer, for an improved construction and arrangement of certain parts of omnibuses and other vehicles. April 30th, 6 months.

R. Corden, of Nottingham, Tobacco Manufacturer, and S. Smith, of the same place, Engineer, for improved economical apparatus for making gas for illuminations. April 30th, 6 months.

J. Constable, of Lime Street, London, Merchant, for certain improvements in the manufacture of sugar. April 30th, 6 months. Communication.

W. C. Cambridge, of Market Lavington, Wilts, Agricultural Machine Maker, for certain improvements: firstly, in machinery for rolling or crushing ground; secondly, for cutting and thrashing agricultural products; and, thirdly, an improved adaptation of horse-power to thrashing machinery, which may also be applied to other uses. April 30th, 6 months.

J. Wright, of Gough Street, Gray's-inn-lane, Coach Builder, for certain improvements in railway and other carriages. May 7th, 6 months. Communication.

J. Grant, of Vine Street, Westminster, Gas Fitter, for improvements in the means of ventilating buildings and other places where a change of air is required. May 7th, 6 months.

W. V. Pickett, of Tottenham, Esq., for certain methods of preparing in metals or other substances, the parts and features of architectural construction and decoration, and for applying the same in the construction and arrangement of houses and other buildings. May 7th, 6 months.

J. Loach, of Birmingham, Manufacturer, for a certain improvement in corkscrews, which improvement is also applicable to cocks or taps and valves. May 7th, 6 months.

A. Toy and E. Hanson, both of Castle Street, Holborn, Lamp Manufacturers, for improvements in consuming tallow and other fatty matters in lamps. May 7th, 6 months.

C. Watterson, of Manchester, Soap Manufacturer, for certain improvements in the manufacture of soap. May 8th, 6 months.

T. Grimsley, of Oxford, Sculptor, for a new method of constructing a self-supporting fire-proof roof and other parts of buildings, with bricks and tiles formed from an improved machine. May 14th, 2 months.

J. Browne, of New Bond Street, Esq., for improvements in apparatus for protecting the human face, or part of the human face, from the inclemency of the weather, part of which improvements is applicable to protect birds in cages. May 14th, 6 months.

E. Hill, of Hart's Hill, Dudley, Worcester, Iron Master, for improvements in the manufacture of railway and other axles, shafts, and bars. May 14th, 6 months.

W. Walker, jun., of Brown Street, Manchester, Hydraulic Engineer, for improvements in warming and ventilating apartments and buildings. May 15th, 6 months.

W. Palmer, of Sutton Street, Clerkenwell, Manufacturer, for improvements in the manufacture of wicks for candles and for lamps, and in the manufacture of candles. May 15th, 6 months.

C. Hancock, of Grosvenor Place, for certain improvements in cork and other stoppers, and a new composition or substance, which may be used as a substitute for and in preference to cork, and a method or methods of manufacturing the said new composition or substance into bungs, stoppers, and other useful articles. May 15th, 6 months.

H. Hughes, of Chiswell Street, Gentleman, for an improved machine for crimping, fluting, and quilling muslin and other fabrics. May 15th, 6 months.

P. A. Le Comte de Fontainemoreau, of Skinner's Place, Sise Lane, for a new and improved mode or method of paving and covering roads and other ways or surfaces. May 15th, 6 months. Communication.

H. Holmes, of Derby, Cutler, for improvements in the manufacture of bricks, tiles, and other plastic substances. May 15th, 6 months.

J. M'Intosh, of Glasgow, Scotland, Gentleman, for certain improvements in revolving engines, and an improved method of producing motive power, and of propelling vessels. May 17th, 6 months.

J. Pilbrow, of Tottenham, Civil Engineer, for certain improvements in the machinery for, or a new method of propelling carriages on railways and common roads, and vessels on rivers and canals. May 17th, 6 months.

G. Gwynne, of Princes Street, Cavendish Square, and G. F. Wilson, of Belmont, Vauxhall, Gentleman, for improvements in treating certain fatty or oily matters, and in the manufacture of candles and soap. May 20th, 6 months.

T. Martin, of Withybusb, Pembroke, for certain improvements in the construction of slated roofs, flats or floors, tanks or cisterns, or reservoirs for water, and in pipes, tubes, or channels, of the same materials, for the conveyance of water. May 22nd, 6 months.

J. Petrie, of Rochdale, Lancaster, Engineer, for certain improvements in steam-engines. May 22nd, 6 months.

J. P. Chatten, of St. Martin's Court, Middlesex, Gentleman, for improvements in the manufacture of dead eyes, for the purpose of setting up the rigging of ships and other sailing vessels. May 22nd, 6 months.

J. Bremner, residing at Pulteney Town, Caithness, Civil Engineer, for certain arrangements for constructing harbours, piers, and buildings in water, for cleansing harbours, and for raising sunken vessels. May 22nd, 6 months.

J. Meeus, of Ludgate Hill, for certain improvements in weaving and in weaving machines. May 22nd, 6 months.

J. H. Moor, of Lincoln's-inn-fields, Gentleman, for certain improvements in the construction of carriages generally. May 23d, 6 months.

W. Johnson, of Bury, Lancaster, Agent, for improvements in machinery, or apparatus for preparing cotton, wool, flax, and other fibrous substances. May 23rd, 6 months.

J. Wilkie, of Glasgow, Mechanic, for improvements in machinery or apparatus for working wood into the various forms required for making doors, window shutters, window sashes, mouldings, flooring, and other purposes. May 23rd, 6 months.

R. Wilson, of Newcastle, Builder, for improvements in the manufacture of tiles. May 23rd, 6 months.

J. Taylor, of Duke Street, Adelphi, Gentleman, for certain new mechanical combinations, by means of which economy of power and of fuel are obtained in the use of the steam-engine. May 23rd, 6 months.

W. A. Cooper, of New Mills, Derby, Gentleman, for certain improvements in machinery for spinning cotton, wool, and other fibrous substances. May 23rd, 6 months.

W. A. Guy, of Bloomsbury Square, B.M., for certain improvements in ventilation. May 25th, 6 months.

C. Low, of Robinson's Row, Kingsland, for certain improvements in the making or manufacturing of iron and steel. May 25th, 6 months.

HISTORICAL REGISTER.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—May 30.—The Customs Bill was read a second time.—On the motion of Lord Wharnccliffe, the Education of the Poor, &c, Bill was read a second time.

May 31.—The House resolved itself into a Committee of the whole House on the Factories Bill. The clauses of the bill were agreed to, and the House resumed.—The Night Poaching Prevention Bill was read a third time.—The Customs Bill, the West India Relief Bill, and the Edinburgh Agreement Bill, passed through Committee.

June 1.—No House.

June 3.—The Courts Martial (East India) Bill was read a second time.—On the motion of Lord Wharncliffe, the Factories Bill was read a third time and passed.—The Customs Amendment Bill was read a third time and passed.—The West India Relief Bill was read a third time and passed.—The Edinburgh Agreement Bill was also read a third time and passed.

June 4.—The Stamp Duties Bill, the Courts Martial (East India) Bill, the York and Scarborough Railway Bill, were each read a third time and passed.

June 5.—No House.

June 6.—The Royal Assent was given, by commission, to the Customs Duties Bill, the Courts Martial, (East India) Bill, the Stamp Duties Bill, the Edinburgh Agreement Bill, the West Indies Relief Bill, the Factories Bill, the Lancaster and Carlisle Railway Bill, the North Union Railway Bill, the Carlisle and Maryport Railway Bill, the Eastern Counties Railway Bill, the Salford Improvement Bill, and the Leeds Gas Company Bill.

June 7th.—The Education of the Poor, &c., Bill passed through Committee.—The Assaults (Ireland) Bill and the Gold and Silver Wares Bill were each read a third time and passed.

June 8.—No House.

June 10.—The Night Poaching Prevention Bill was read a third time. The Law of Libel Act Amendment Bill was committed *pro forma*.

June 11.—Lord Powis moved the second reading of the St. Asaph and Bangor Dioceses Bill; on which a long discussion took place, ending in a division, when the numbers appeared—content 49, not content 37.—The Vinegar and Glass Duties Bill was read a second time.

June 12.—No House.

June 13.—Lord Monteagle moved for a select committee to enquire into the Import Duties; when after a long debate the House divided, when there appeared a majority of 109 against the motion.

June 14.—On the motion of the Bishop of Exeter, the Bill for the Suppression of Brothels was read a second time and ordered to be committed.

June 15.—No House.

June 17.—The Earl of Radnor moved "For a return of the number of warrants which had been issued by the present Secretaries of State for the detention and opening of letters by the General Post Office; specifying the dates and names of the parties, and giving the forms of warrants." After some discussion the motion was negatived without a division.—The Debtors and Creditors Bill passed through committee on the motion of Lord Cottenham; and Lord Brougham's Insolvency Bill was read a second time.

June 18.—The Slave Trade Bill was read a third time and passed.—The Insolvent Debtors Amendment Bill passed through Committee.—Lord Wharncliffe laid on the table, a Bill "To authorise the division of the parish and vicarage of Leeds into several parishes and vicarages; stating that the measure had been introduced at the instance of Dr. Hook, the vicar of Leeds, who was anxious to provide for the spiritual destitution of a very extensive and populous district.

June 19.—No House.

June 20.—Nothing of importance.

June 21.—Lord Brougham called the attention of their Lordships to the Report on his Bill for the Amendment of the Insolvent Debtors Act, which he contrasted very favourably with that lately introduced by Lord Cottenham on the same subject. Lord Cottenham ably defended his Bill, and recalled to the recollection of the House the almost unanimous applause with which it had been read a second time on the 30th May last; and trusted that their Lordships would not now, in imitation of another assembly, be prepared to support a measure based on antagonistic principles. Lord Ashburton defended the principle of imprisonment for debt, which both Bills agreed in assailing; and the Lord Chancellor, inculcating caution in dealing with so important a subject, recommended, as the only wise, proper, and sober course, that the whole subject should be referred to a Select Committee. To this Lord Brougham assented, so far as his own Bill was concerned, and in spite of stout opposition from

Lords Campbell and Cottenham, the reference was carried without a division.—Lord Cottenham then moved the third reading of his Debtors and Creditors Bill; and the Earl of Shaftesbury moved, as an amendment, that it should be recommitted. The House divided on this amendment, which was carried by 28 to 4.

June 22.—No House.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—May 30.—The Salisbury Branch Railway Bill was read a third time and passed.—The Stamp Duties Bill, and the Assaults (Ireland) Bill, were each read a third time and passed.—The Slave Trade Treaties Bill went through Committee.—The New South Wales, &c. Government Bill was read a second time.—The Customs Duties (Isle of Man) Bill was also read a second time.

May 31.—Mr. Bouverie took the oaths and his seat for Kilmarnock.—The Court Martials (East Indies) Bill was read a third time.—The Limitation of Actions (Ireland) Bill was read a second time.—A long debate arose on the Ecclesiastical Courts Bill, when, after several divisions, the chairman reported progress, and the other orders of the day were disposed of.

June 1.—No House.

June 3.—Mr. Entwisle took the oaths and his seat for South Lancashire.—The Slamannan Junction Railway Bill, the Stratford (Eastern Counties and Thames Junction) Railway Bill, and the Liverpool Dock Bill, were each read a third time and passed.—The House went into a Committee of Ways and Means; a very long debate took place on the Sugar Duties; Lord John Russell proposed an amendment, which was to subject to the now proposed duty of 34s. the sugar of all foreign countries, whether grown by free or by slave labour; adding a further duty on any particular kind of foreign sugar imported in a refined or highly manufactured state: the Committee divided, when the number were, for the resolutions of government, 197; for Lord J. Russell's amendment, 128.

June 4.—A long debate arose on the motion of Lord H. Vane for a Committee of the whole House to consider the expediency of repealing the export duty on coal; the House divided—against the motion of repeal, 110; for it, 74.

June 5.—The House went into Committee on the Court of Chancery (County Palatine of Lancaster) Bill, when the several clauses were agreed to, and the House resumed.—Lord Worsley moved the order of the day for the House going into Committee on the Commons Inclosure Bill; the Bill was committed *pro formâ*.—The County Coroners Bill then went through Committee.

June 6.—The Croydon and Epsom Railway Bill, the Taaf-Vale Railway Bill, and the Preston and Wyre Dock Bill, were each read a third time and passed.—The Attorney-General moved the second reading of the Dissenters Chapels Bill, which gave rise to a very long debate, ending in a division of the House, when the numbers were—for the second reading, 307; against it, 117.—The Sugar Duties Bill was read a second time.

June 7.—The House resolved into Committee on the Parishes (Scotland) Bill, which has for its object the facilitating the division and creation of parishes in Scotland.—The Salmon Fisheries (Scotland) Bill was read a second time.—The Report on the Vinegar and Glass Duties Bill was brought up.

June 8.—No House.

June 10.—The Eastern Union Railway Bill was read a third time and passed.—The Vinegar and Glass Bill was also read a third time and passed.—The House resolved into Committee on the Sugar Duties Bill, on which a very long discussion took place; after which the chairman reported progress, and the House again resolved itself into Committee on the Vestries Bill.

June 11.—The Ness Fisheries Bill was read a third time and passed.—Mr. Borthwick moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the operation of the Anatomy Act; the House divided, when the numbers were—for the motion, 10; against it, 49.—A debate arose on the Irish Church Temporalities Bill, which was adjourned.—The County Rates, &c. Bill passed through Committee.

June 12.—The Delabole and Rock Railway Bill, and the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway Bill, were each read a third time and passed.—The Aliens Bill was read a second time.—The adjourned debate on the Irish Church resumed, which occasioned a very long debate; on a division the numbers were—for the motion, 179; against it, 274.

June 13.—The Manchester Bonding Bill was read a third time and passed.—The Garnkirk, Glasgow, and Coatbridge Railway Bill was read a third time and passed.—The order of the day having been read for the second reading of the Bank Charter

Bill, Mr. Hawes proposed a resolution, "That no sufficient evidence had been laid before the House to justify the interference of the legislature with the circulation of the banks of issue." The House divided on Mr. Hawes' amendment, and the numbers were—against it, 185; for it, 30; the Bill was then read a second time.

June 14.—A conversation arose on the detention of letters at the general post office, after which the House resolved itself into a Committee on the Sugar Duties Bill. Mr. P. Miles brought forward his amendment, which was, "That from and after the 10th of November, 1844, the duty upon sugar, the produce of British possessions, be reduced to 20s. the cwt.; and that the duties on sugar certified to be the growth of China, Java, or Manilla, or of any foreign country, the sugar of which her Majesty in Council shall have declared to be admissible, as not being the produce of slave-labour, shall be as follows:—Brown muscovado, or clayed, 30s. the cwt.; white clayed, or sugar otherwise prepared, and equivalent to white clayed sugar, 34s. the cwt., with 5 per cent. thereon." A long debate took place; after which the Committee divided—for the government proposition, 221; against it, 241.

June 15.—No House.

June 17.—The House went into Committee on the Sugar Duties Bill. On the question that the duty on sugar the growth of any British possession in America, and imported thence, should be 20s. the cwt., being put, Sir R. Peel proposed, by way of amendment, that the duty should be 24s. Some discussion took place as to the form of proceeding; and Mr. Greene (the Chairman of the Committee) decided that the 24s. duty could be moved as an amendment, but admitted that the question he had first to put was, that the duty of 20s. stand part of the clause. Sir R. Peel said, that in case the House affirmed his amendment for a duty of 24s. on colonial sugar, he should propose, by way of amendment, that the duty on foreign free labour sugar should be the same as he originally proposed. The Committee divided, when the numbers were—for the motion, 233; for the amendment, 255; majority in favour of the Government, 22. Mr. Miles said, that as the opinion of the Committee was against his amendment, he should not persist any further.

June 18.—Nothing of importance.

June 19.—The House went into Committee on the Vestries' Bill; the debate was adjourned.—The Mayor of Dublin appeared in his robes of office at the bar of the House, and presented a petition, signed by himself, and the aldermen and burgesses of the city of Dublin, complaining of the sentence which had been passed upon Daniel O'Connell and others. Mr. T. Duncombe, on the petition being brought in, moved that it be read at the table, which was done accordingly.

June 20.—The Scotch Parishes Bill was read a third time.—In reply to a question from Mr. R. Yorke, Sir R. Peel said he had not postponed the Ecclesiastical Courts' Bill because it was opposed, but because there were other more important bills,—the Bank Charter Bill and the Sugar Bill, for instance—pressing on the attention of government. Due notice should be given of the time when it would be brought on.—The Night Poaching Prevention was read a third time.—The Solicitor-general obtained leave to bring in a bill for the disfranchisement of the borough of Sudbury.—The House went into Committee on the Sugar Duties' Bill. On the third clause, which gives "power to her majesty by order in council, to declare the sugars of other countries to be admissible as not being the produce of slave labour," some discussion took place. The clause was agreed to. The fourth clause, requiring "certificates of origin," also gave rise to a discussion.—Lord Palmerston repeated, at great length, the objections to the expediency of employing British consuls in giving certificates of origin; and said he would take the sense of the committee on the clause. There was a division accordingly: for the clause, 114; against it, 60; majority, 54. After some conversation, the bill proceeded to its end without any further discussion. The preamble was then agreed to, and the chairman reported progress.

June 21.—The report of the committee being brought up, Mr. Ewart, in the absence of Mr. Hume, brought forward his motion, that sugar, the produce of free and slave labour, should be admitted into this country on payment of equal duties. After a few words from Mr. James and Mr. Barclay, the House divided—against Mr. Ewart's amendment, 183; for it, 65; majority against it, 118. The report was then read, and the bill was ordered to be printed.—The County Coroners' Bill was read a third time, and passed.—The Dissenters' Chapel Bill went through committee, and was ordered to be reported.

June 22.—No House.